1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
2	Charlottesville Division
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4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Criminal No. 3:13cr00015
5	vs. Charlottesville, Virginia
6	GETTY ANDREW ROTHENBERG,
7	Defendant. January 17, 2014
8	TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCING HEARING
9	BEFORE THE HONORABLE GLEN E. CONRAD
10	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
11	
12	APPEARANCES:
13	For the United States: U.S. Attorney's Office
14	TIMOTHY J. HEAPHY 310 First St., S.W.
15	Room 906 Roanoke, VA 24008
16	
17	For the Defendant: Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore
18	THOMAS J. BONDURANT, JR. 10 Franklin Rd., S.E.
19	Roanoke, VA 24022
20	Court Reporter: Sonia R. Ferris, RPR U.S. Court Reporter
21	116 N. Main St. Room 314 Harrisonburg, VA 22802
22	540.434.3181 Ext. 6
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25	Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography; transcript produced by computer.

1 THE COURT: Good morning. 2 I'll ask Ms. Moody to announce the style of 3 today's first case. 4 THE CLERK: United States of America vs. 5 Getty Andrew Rothenberg, Criminal Action 3:13cr15, for 6 sentencing. 7 THE COURT: The record of the Court reflects 8 that Mr. Rothenberg was previously before the Court and made a plea of guilty to Count one of a criminal 9 10 information charging wire fraud, in violation of 18 11 U.S.C. Section 1343. 12 Following acceptance of the quilty plea, the Court referred this matter to the United States 13 Probation Service for the development of a pre-sentence 14 15 report designed to help the Court get to know Mr. 16 Rothenberg better, to find out, as I always say, some of 17 the good things about his history, about his background 18 in the face of criminal allegations as set forth in the 19 information. Also, the pre-sentence report is designed 20 to help the Court decide whether to approve the plea 21 agreement pursuant to which the defendant made his plea 22 of quilty. And then finally, the Court utilizes the 23 pre-sentence report in an effort to properly apply the 24 Advisory Sentencing Guidelines that the Court must 2.5 consider before announcing some disposition.

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The pre-sentence report has been completed
in Mr. Rothenberg's case. The Court has had the
opportunity to review it on several occasions now.
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suspect that counsel have as well.
            Mr. Bondurant, I would imagine that you have
shared the report with the client and discussed it with
him before we convened today.
            MR. BONDURANT: Yes, sir, I have.
                       Mr. Rothenberg, do you feel that
            THE COURT:
you've had an adequate opportunity to review the
pre-sentence report in your case and to discuss this
matter with your attorneys?
            THE DEFENDANT:
                            Yes, Your Honor.
            THE COURT: Good.
                               Then we're ready to
proceed with the sentencing hearing.
            You gentlemen may be seated.
            The first order of business will be to
determine if either side has objections to the
pre-sentence report as written.
            I would note at the beginning of this
discussion that since the pre-sentence report has been
completed, it is the Court's understanding that the
parties have met and agreed on certain of the facts that
might have otherwise been in dispute in this case and
would urge the Court to modify the pre-sentence report
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pursuant to their agreement.

It's also the Court's understanding that the parties have agreed to jointly recommend a sentence to the Court. I would further report that at an earlier hearing, the Court announced that it felt that it could live with the party's sentencing recommendation.

So, in light of that and before I call upon the parties for comments regarding the pre-sentence report, it is the Court's belief that pursuant to the agreement that I have referenced, the parties would now have the Court modify the pre-sentence report to reflect a total loss of between 1 million -- more than 1 million, but less than 2.5 million, rather than the loss amount reflected in the pre-sentence report.

Further, the Court believes that the parties have agreed that sentencing guideline paragraph 5K2.10, as well as the general sentencing factors cited by Congress under Section 3553(a) of Title 18, would support both a departure and variance in this case to bring the sentencing range to one within Zone C of the advisory guideline sentencing table.

MR. HEAPHY: Your Honor, if I could just make one clarification. I don't believe it's 5K2.10.

It's 5K2.13. It's the diminished capacity mitigation that we believe is appropriate here. I don't think we

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had any sort of agreement about victim's conduct.
would ask the Court to more explicitly find 2.13 as
opposed to 2.10.
            THE COURT: It was the Court's belief the
5K2.10 quideline was the appropriate one to support a
departure.
            MR. BONDURANT: Yes, sir. That's the way we
understood it when the Court asked us to resolve the
case. That's what we've advised our client, too.
            THE COURT: I think that's consistent with
my recollection as well, Mr. Heaphy.
            MR. HEAPHY: Well, Your Honor, I'm just
referring to the agreement between the victim and the
defendant.
            THE COURT: Let's look at it.
            Again, I believe when I first made the
suggestion that the parties might want to consider this
issue, I specifically referenced the 5K2.10.
            MR. HEAPHY: If I can have just a moment.
            THE COURT: Sure.
            (Counsel conferred).
            I don't know how important it is, the more I
think about it. If everyone agrees the guideline
provisions justify a departure to Zone C, I don't know
if it's necessary to reference one or the other. We can
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1 reference both. 2 MR. BONDURANT: When we went into the negotiations, we relied on the Court saying the victim's 3 4 conduct would be a ground for variance and departure. That's what we relied on in our negotiations. 5 6 THE COURT: The bottom line is the same, is 7 it not? 8 MR. BONDURANT: It's the same, but we would like to have the Court rely on both or all three. 9 10 gave three separate grounds for departure. 11 THE COURT: I'll do that. I'll just say that 12 after considering the arguments being made under various 13 quideline provisions and considering the sentencing factors considered by Congress to be important for 14 15 imposition of criminal sentences in federal proceedings, 16 the Court believes that a departure based on a finding 17 of offense level 13 is appropriate, and effect such a 18 departure. 19 MR. BONDURANT: Thank you, Judge. 20 THE COURT: So, I would have the 21 pre-sentence report modified so as to reflect the 22 smaller loss amount and the fact that the evidence in 23 the case supports a departure and a variance to a 24 guideline total offense level of 13, bringing the matter 2.5 within Zone C of the sentencing table.

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So, with those modifications having been
made, Mr. Heaphy, let me ask. Are there any additional
challenges to the fact findings of the probation officer
that you would note on behalf of the United States?
            MR. HEAPHY: No, Your Honor.
            THE COURT: Mr. Bondurant, any challenges to
the fact findings that you would voice on behalf of the
defendant?
           MR. BONDURANT:
                           No, Your Honor.
            THE COURT: Regarding the proposed
application of the Advisory Sentencing Guidelines, as
modified based on the agreement that I have referenced
and in the Court's rulings as to grounds for a departure
and variance, Mr. Heaphy, is there any challenge by the
United States as to the proposed quideline application
that I've announced today?
            MR. HEAPHY: No, Your Honor. I believe that
with the revised report, we're at a base offense level
    We believe that a seven-level variance downward to
get us to a 13 is appropriate, for reasons that we'll
discuss. I believe that puts this within Zone C, which
makes Mr. Rothenberg eligible for the sentence that we
discussed.
            THE COURT: A split sentence.
           MR. HEAPHY:
                        Yes.
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THE COURT: Mr. Bondurant, any challenge to the proposed guideline application that you would make on behalf of the defendant?

MR. BONDURANT: No, Judge.

THE COURT: Mr. Rothenberg, let me address you and tell you that as indicated, I have had the opportunity to receive and review the pre-sentence report in your case. I've also considered matters that have been brought to the Court's attention by the parties since the time that the pre-sentence report was authored.

Based on all the information now available to the Court, it is the Court's finding that the pre-sentence report, especially as it discusses your background, your history, your criminal record, the offense conduct on this occasion, all of these things are accurate. The only difference, the only modification I would make in terms of the pre-sentence report is to reflect a total loss of between 1 million and 2.5 million. Other than that modification though, the Court is going to adopt the pre-sentence report as written. I think it does provide a very good and helpful reference for the Court.

Furthermore, based on what has been said about you in this report, based on what I've come to

understand about your background, your history, your family circumstances, all of which are very positive and favorable, and based on what I've come to understand about the offense conduct and what occurred leading to this criminal prosecution, it is the Court's belief that the plea agreement that you reached with the government is a fair one. I think it serves your interests in determining exactly what conduct you'll be held responsible for, what loss you'll be held accountable for, and it serves the government's interests in obtaining a conviction in this case without some very expensive, drawn out, protracted prosecution. It serves the interests of both sides.

Accordingly, the Court now adopts the plea agreement and I will attempt to implement that plea agreement in announcing a sentencing in just a moment.

Finally, the Court believes that the proposed modified guideline application is correct. Specifically, the Court believes that in your case, we must start with an offense level of 20, based on the amount of the loss, and that for a number of different circumstances, in applying the factors referenced by Congress in Section 3553(a) of Title 18, that a seven offense level downward departure and variance is appropriate in your case.

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Applying that downward departure and
applying that downward variance, the Court believes that
in your case, your guidelines are appropriately
calculated, giving an offense level of 13 and a Criminal
History Category of I.
            Those guideline provisions would result in a
sentencing recommendations of 12 to 18 months; a period
of supervised release to follow -- Mr. Sheffield, of
three years?
            MR. SHEFFIELD: Two to five years.
            THE COURT: Two to five years; a fine of
7500 to $1 million; and in your case, sir, the parties
have agreed that you owe restitution in the amount of
one and a quarter million dollars to the victim of this
crime, as well as a special assessment of $100.
            I would also note that the Court's
assessment of your offense level and criminal history
are such as to put you within Zone C of the appropriate
sentencing table. That would result in the possibility
of a split sentence for any time ultimately imposed.
            You gentlemen may be seated.
            Mr. Bondurant, given these findings by the
Court, I ask, is there any evidence in mitigation that
you would have the Court consider this morning?
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MR. BONDURANT: No, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: Then I'll call upon the parties
for any comments that may need to be made regarding
their view of an appropriate disposition.
            Mr. Heaphy, we'll start with you.
            MR. HEAPHY: Thank you very much, Your
Honor. I don't have much to say given that we have a
joint recommendation to the Court of an 18-month split
sentence.
            We're balancing here the seriousness of this
offense which, as detailed at the time of the guilty
plea, was significant. This was a long-running fraud of
someone of considerable means that Mr. Rothenberg
perpetrated in multiple forms over a long period of
time. So in our view, it is a very serious fraud case.
But there are factors here in mitigation.
            Significantly, the victim's desire here is
that Mr. Rothenberg receive treatment as opposed to
incarceration and he's been clear about that from the
beginning. That is significant to us and one reason why
we're asking for a variance.
            Mr. Rothenberg has also been cooperative.
He has met with us and provided information and admitted
his role in this fraud. That also, in our view,
justifies the variance.
            Then finally, there are some mental health
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issues that I think Mr. Bondurant cited as also
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    justifies a variance.
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                In our calculation then, Your Honor, of this
    balance of the seriousness and the mitigation, the
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    victim's view and the cooperation, we think an 18-month
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    sentence is appropriate. It reflects the seriousness,
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    but it also gives Mr. Rothenberg substantial credit from
    what he would otherwise have faced had this matter gone
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    to trial. So we specifically ask for 18 months imposed
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    as a split sentence; nine months of active incarceration
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    and nine months in community confinement.
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                THE COURT:
                            Thank you.
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                Mr. Bondurant, what would you say on behalf
    of the defendant?
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                MR. BONDURANT: There again, Your Honor, not
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    much since we have an agreed sentence in this case,
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    split sentence of nine months incarceration and nine
    months home confinement.
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                As far as the fine goes, I would like to
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    speak to that a second. It's pretty clear Mr.
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    Rothenberg is without funds at this time. His wife just
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    gave birth to their second child last week. That's
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    creating both a financial and emotional toll. We would
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ask the Court find he's incapable of paying a fine at

this time or at the very least at the lower end of the

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fine guidelines. Otherwise, we believe this is a fair
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    result considering all the factors as mentioned by Mr.
    Heaphy and the other factors the Court said it would
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    rely upon from the bench and we believe this is a fair
    outcome for Mr. Rothenberg.
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                THE COURT: Yes, sir.
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                I wonder. I know that you've agreed to
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    restitution. Did you also agree to waive interest on
    the amount that's due and owing?
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                MR. HEAPHY: I don't have any -- we did not,
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    Your Honor.
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                THE COURT: Do you have any strong feelings
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    about that, one way or the other?
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                MR. HEAPHY: I do not.
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                THE COURT: Normally, I would waive the
    collection of interest.
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                MR. BONDURANT: We would, of course, ask for
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    that.
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                THE COURT: Mr. Rothenberg, let me ask if
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    you will join counsel there at the podium, please, at
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    this time.
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                Mr. Rothenberg, is there anything that you
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    would say on your own behalf before the Court pronounces
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    sentence?
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                THE DEFENDANT: I'm very sorry for not being
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as diligent as I could be in my business conducts with
Mr. Tinsley. I was extremely careless in the way I went
about doing contractually things with Mr. Tinsley. I'm
very sorry. I committed wire fraud and I am accepting
the -- my responsibility for it.
            Again, I'm extremely embarrassed to be here.
Very sorry to be here. I accept my punishment and I
look forward to getting past this and moving on and
being able to support my family and get past this most
embarrassing situation so I can get on with my life and
look forward to a very energetic life beyond this.
            I'm determined to not only rebound, to make
an amazing entrance to the civilian life and really make
a positive impact for the rest of my life. I'm trying
to get the embarrassment behind me and let this
situation drift behind me so I can get on to a very
impressive life that will impact positively a lot of
people, going forward.
            THE COURT: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. I think
that's well said. Your comments, I know, were
heartfelt.
           Mr. Rothenberg, as you've recognized in your
statement and as has been pointed out on several
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occasions during the prosecution of this matter, you did

commit a serious crime. You did commit mail fraud and

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it resulted in a very substantial loss to the victim.
It was a very wrongful act. You stole money and you've
admitted responsibility for that. You've stood up and
said, yes, I'm responsible, I need to be punished, and I
think that all of this speaks in mitigation, though with
the understanding that there is still a very significant
criminal act for which you must now be punished.
            When you announced through counsel and with
the concurrence of the United States Attorney at some
earlier time that you had reached a resolution of this
            THE DEFENDANT: I'm sorry. We -- would you
repeat that?
            THE COURT: Earlier this week when you
informed the Court that you and the United States
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informed the Court that you and the United States
Attorney and your counsel had sat down and reached a resolution of certain of the factual disputes in the case, particularly the amount of loss and particularly any dispute between you as to the punishment that you should serve, I told you that what you were recommending to the Court was within the range that the Court considered to be an appropriate range for your sentence, for your disposition, and I'm going to stand by that.

I'm going to adopt the recommendation. I'm going to approve the recommendation that you and your attorney

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and Mr. Heaphy have made and sentence you pursuant to that agreement. It seems to me that the sentence that's proposed serves all of the statutory objectives that the Court must consider in a sentencing decision. I think it does, the proposed sentence recognizes the seriousness of the offense. I think it serves to punish you. think it serves to compensate the victim. It sends a message. It deters others. It promotes respect for the law. It's consistent with sentences imposed in like situations both in this court and in other courts. So, the bottom line is that the Court believes the recommendation that you have made is well advised. The Court is going to depart in sentencing you, based on the provisions of sentencing guideline paragraphs 5K2.10 and 5K2.13. Also, I'm going to have the sentencing order reflect that the sentence imposed represents a variance based on the application of the sentencing factors set forth in Section 3553(a) of Title 18. I'm going to sentence you to incarceration of 18 months, split between a period of actual incarceration and a period of home confinement enforced as a condition of your supervised release.

I'm going to sentence you to a period of

supervised release of three years.

The Court agrees that with the obligation that you've undertaken to make restitution to the victim to the tune of one and a quarter million dollars, that it's not realistic for you to pay a fine on top of that. I'm going to make a finding under the guideline scheme that you're not capable of paying an additional sum by way of a fine; vary from the guidelines and impose no fine in connection with this conviction. I am required, though, to impose the \$100 special assessment. It's mandatory and required of all persons convicted of a single felony offense in a United States District Court proceeding.

So, Mr. Rothenberg, that is the proposed sentencing structure in your case: 18 months, 9 of which to be served by way of actual incarceration, 9 to be served by way of home confinement; period of supervised release of three years; no fine; restitution in the amount of one and a quarter million dollars, with no interest to accrue on any sums not paid immediately; and then the \$100 special assessment.

Mr. Heaphy, does the United States challenge the legality or propriety of the proposed sentence?

MR. HEAPHY: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Bondurant, does the

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    defendant challenge the legality or propriety of the
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    proposed sentence?
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                MR. BONDURANT: No, Your Honor.
                May I have one moment?
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                THE COURT:
                            Sure.
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                 (Mr. Bondurant conferred with the
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    defendant).
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                MR. BONDURANT: I'm sorry, Judge. Go ahead.
                 (The defendant conferred with counsel).
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                THE COURT: That will be the sentence
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    imposed, Mr. Rothenberg. In the next several days, the
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    Court will enter a final judgment and commitment order
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    in your case that will read in pertinent part as
    follows: Pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984
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    and having considered the factors noted in 18 U.S.C.
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    Section 3553(a), and after having consulted the Advisory
    Sentencing Guidelines, it is the judgment of the Court
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    that the defendant, Getty Andrew Rothenberg, is hereby
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    committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons, to be
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    imprisoned for a total term of 18 months. The term of
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    imprisonment will be split between actual incarceration
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    to the tune of nine months and a period of home
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    confinement, home detention, for a period of nine
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                Following the period of actual
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incarceration, the nine-month period, you'll be on supervised release for a period of three years. There will be conditions attached to the period of supervised release. I'm going to undertake to announce the more important of these conditions at this time.
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It will be necessary when you're released from prison that you report to the United States

Probation Service in the district in which you propose to live within 72 hours of the time of your release.

Once you're established on supervision, it will be necessary that you comply with a number of mandatory, standard and special conditions of supervision.

By way of mandatory conditions, I will require that you not commit another federal, state or local crime; that you not possess or use a controlled substance; that you submit to regular drug testing as administered by the probation officer to make sure that you're free of drug use; that you not possess a firearm, ammunition, destructive device or any other dangerous weapon; and that you cooperate in the collection of a DNA sample.

Now, in terms of the standard conditions, I'm not going to read all those. It's a lengthy list. You'll forget them. I would, at this time, anyway.

You'll be given a written list of standard conditions when you're taken up on supervision. The more important of those conditions require that you remain within regular contact with the probation officer and that you notify the probation officer of relevant changes of circumstance in your situation; new home, new job, new family arrangements, whatever. The probation officer should be kept advised of all significant changes in your life.

Then by way of special conditions, I am going to require that you serve nine months under our location monitoring program, nine months home detention, and that you abide by all the program requirements. It will be necessary -- well, I'm going to leave it to the discretion of the probation officer to decide if you require electronic monitoring in order to enforce your compliance with the conditions of the location monitoring program. That will be discretionary with the probation officer.

In terms of the restrictions, in terms of what you'll be prohibited from doing, you're restricted to your residence at all times during this nine-month period except for employment, education, religious services, medical visits, substance abuse or mental health treatment, attorney visits, court appearances,

Court-ordered obligations or any other activities that are approved by the probation officer. So except for those exceptional visits, those exceptional circumstances, it will be necessary that you stay at home for the nine-month period. You will be, though, authorized to work if you're able to have regular employment.

Now, there's some thought that you might benefit from mental health treatment. I don't know about that. We're going to wait and see about your needs when you're released from prison. The probation officer will undertake to evaluate you at that time. If it's well advised, we'll require that you participate in a program of mental health treatment as directed by the Court, with the assistance of the probation officer, until such time as you've complied with all the requirements of that program. We'll make that call later. If we feel that you need it, then we'll require it as a condition of supervised release.

Also by way of special conditions, I'll require that you provide the probation officer with access to any requested financial information; that you not incur new credit charges or open additional lines of credit without the approval of the probation officer.

I'm also going to require at the time of

your release from prison that the probation officer evaluate you for potential substance abuse treatment. I don't know that that will be necessary. We'll decide then. If it's determined that you would benefit from substance abuse treatment, we'll identify a program that suits your needs and require you to participate in that as well. If it is required, it will be necessary that you fully comply with the requirements of that program as a condition of supervised release.

I'll require that you reside in a residence free of firearms, ammunition, destructive devices and dangerous weapons and that you submit to warrantless search and seizure of person and property, as directed by the probation officer, to make sure that you're free of contraband during this period of your supervision.

Now, in terms of your financial obligations, the Court has ruled that you do not have the capacity to pay a fine. I'm varying from the guidelines and ordering that no fine be collected from you.

The Court is going to order, pursuant to your agreement with the government and the defendant, that you make restitution to the victim of this crime in the amount of \$1.25 million. I'm also going to require that you pay the special assessment of \$100.

The Court will order that interest on the

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1.25 million is waived.
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                Since the time that you've reached an
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    agreement on the restitution, more time has passed than
    can be accommodated by the agreement that you've
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    reached, so is there some new time frame over which you
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    anticipate Mr. Rothenberg will pay restitution,
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    gentlemen?
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                MR. BONDURANT: I've actually talked to Mr.
    Treakle. He and I will sit down and come up with a new
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    timeline and we'll let the Court know when we do that.
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                THE COURT: Can you do so soon, because it
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    needs to be reflected in the final judgment order?
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                MR. BONDURANT: We'll do it the first of the
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    week.
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                THE COURT: So, restitution, one and a
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    quarter million dollars.
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                Having considered your ability to pay this
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    sum, the Court will order that you discharge your
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    financial obligations in the following fashion. The
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    $100 special assessment should be paid today. To the
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    extent it cannot be paid today, we'll let you pay it
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    within 60 days.
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                As to the restitution, it is contemplated
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    that you will transfer your interest in the Towne and
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    Country and Cowboyd Holding Companies to the victim,
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with the understanding that the parties have agreed that
these assets carry a value of $200,000.
            You will also pay the victim $100,000 in
cash, 30,000 of which will be paid immediately and the
remaining payments of 35,000 to be made at dates
certain, to be provided to the Court after consultation
with the victim's counsel and your attorney.
            Then as to the balance, the Court will order
that you pay the victim 20 percent of your monthly gross
income or $100 per month, whichever is greater, to
commence 60 days after release from imprisonment.
            Are there any other sentencing provisions
that the United States would recommend, Mr. Heaphy?
            MR. HEAPHY: I don't believe so, no, Your
Honor.
            THE COURT: Mr. Sheffield, anything else you
can think of that should be done in Mr. Rothenberg's
case?
            MR. SHEFFIELD: Your Honor, the only
recommendation I would have is for him to be evaluated
for mental health issues while he's incarcerated, should
he need treatment.
            THE COURT: I think they'll do that and
you'll be armed with that information when he's released
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and you can decide at that point, after you and I talk,

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    as to whether or not anything else is necessary.
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                MR. SHEFFIELD: Yes, sir.
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                THE COURT: Mr. Bondurant, any challenge to
    the conditions announced, any additional conditions
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    you'd have the Court consider, any question as to what's
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    necessary for compliance?
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                MR. BONDURANT: No, Your Honor.
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                THE COURT: Do you have a place of
    incarceration in mind? With nine months, he's not going
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    to have too much by way of choice, but I'll make any
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    recommendation that you want me to.
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                MR. BONDURANT: Yes, sir. We'd like to ask
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    for the satellite camp within Petersburg. It's within
    close range of his home in Richmond and he just had a
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    new child.
                THE COURT: We'll make a recommendation.
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                MR. BONDURANT: I'd also ask he be allowed
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    to self-report, March 1st. I've spoken to Mr. Heaphy. I
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    don't believe there's an objection to that.
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                MR. HEAPHY: I think that's a BOP decision
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    and I don't have any problem with it.
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                THE COURT: You don't have any problem with
23
    him self-reporting.
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                The date, though, is something neither one
    of us controls.
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We'll have the Court order reflect that Mr. Rothenberg will be able to self-report.

Sir, it will be necessary for you to comply with the instructions given to you by the Marshal Service. The Marshal Service will contact you and tell you when and where you're expected to report. Be sure you do so on time and I'll have the Court order reflect that we don't contemplate that you'll be required to report prior to March 1, 2014. It will be some time after that.

Now, Mr. Rothenberg, I take to heart the things that you said when you made your statement a few moments ago. You want to get about the process of putting this behind you and rebuilding your life. I think that this sentence is conducive to that course of action. You're going to serve a short period of incarceration, though I think it's a period of incarceration that meets all the statutory requirements. I think it serves all the elements Congress has considered to be important for the Court to evaluate in terms of criminal dispositions. But it's a sentence that's not so long as to prevent you from attaining these goals that you've expressed, these goals you've set out for yourself.

My hope is that you'll be able to serve this

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time without incident, that you'll do well on supervised
release and that you'll be very successful in building a
new life for your wife and family, in the years to come.
Based on what I've come to learn about you, what has
been said about you in the pre-sentence report, it seems
that this is a very realistic goal and I'm convinced
that you'll achieve it.
            Mr. Rothenberg, you have waived the right to
appeal your sentence by virtue of your plea agreement
and that waiver is binding unless the sentence exceeds
the statutory maximum or is based on some
constitutionally impermissible factor. If you undertake
to appeal despite your waiver, you may lose the benefits
of your plea agreement.
            To the extent a right of appeal does exist,
I tell you a person unable to pay the cost of appeal may
apply for leave to appeal without pre-payment of that
cost.
            Any notice of appeal must be filed within
14 days of the date of entry of judgment of conviction
or within 14 days of a notice of appeal filed by the
United States.
            If requested, the Clerk of Court will
prepare and file a notice of appeal on your behalf.
            Good luck to you, sir. I hope this time
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passes quickly for you. As I say, I hope you're
    successful in getting on with the rest of your life and
    building a new life for your family and yourself.
                Good luck to you.
                THE DEFENDANT: Thank you.
                THE COURT: Thank you, gentlemen. Good to
    see you all here. I appreciate your help and input.
                If there's nothing further, we'll ask the
    Marshal to declare the Court in recess until return of
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    Court.
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    "I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript
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    from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled
16
    matter.
19
    /s/ Sonia Ferris
                                       January 31, 2014"
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